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at the distribution of prizes at Victoria College on Saturday, the 31st inst., at 11 a.m., and all interested in education are invited to attend.

ONE of the many would-be pirates with whose presence the colony is blessed was at

work yesterday afternoon in the highway robbery line. Three foreign youths who were walking along the seaside about a

mile west of Kennedy Town were stopped by a Chinaman who presented a revolver and threatened to shoot them if they did

not give him what money they had in their possession. He succeeded in making them hand over about fifty cents by repeated threats, and then disappeared up the hillside, the direction from which he had

come. He did not attempt to search his victims, being no doubt afraid that they might close with him and disarm him. One of the three attempted to run away,

but the highwayman stopped him by threatening to fire. The affair took place in broad daylight and a number of Chinese working on the hillside were looking on. The three youths afterwards returned to

the same spot, accompanied by an Indian constable, but of course the man was not to be seen.

By the *Saikio Maru* there arrived in Shang-

At the time the Japan Mail left a great

dem or uneasiness was felt in Rome concerning the fate of Mr. George Natchell, of the Government Railways, who went out for a row in a punt on the 11th inst., and has not since been heard of. The surmise was that he had been run down by a junk.

THE China Inland Mission has been registered under the Limited Liability Company's Acts as the China Inland Mission Corporation. The object is to act and allow its name to be used as trustee for the

mission founded by the Rev. James Hudson Taylor, and known as the China Inland Mission. For the purposes of registration the numbers is declared not to exceed twenty. — *Shanghai Mercury*.

A RATHER serious accident happened to Mr. From, third engineer of the *Hastings*, an hour after the steamer had left Cheseb on the 17th. He was trying whether one of the bearings was heated, and before he could remove his hand, the eccentric came

down upon it and cut off the ends of three of his fingers. The *Hacting* was then turned round and Mr From was taken to Cheloo and landed there.—*N. C Daily News.*

WE hear from Peking privately that the audience decree was a perfectly spontaneous act on the part of the Throne, and 'astonished no one more than the Ministers themselves.' This confirms the statement in the *Chinese Times*. 'Fertile imaginations' our correspondent goes on to say

'will have lots of scope in trying to discover what will happen now the Seventeenth Prince is dead. It may be fraught with the most eventful results.'—*N. C. Daily News*.
THE severity of the epidemic of influenza now prevailing in Japan may be gathered

from statistics published in the vernacular press. We read that out of 130,000 inhabitants of Kobe, 25,000 have been attacked by the disease, and that Yokohama has suffered still more. In the latter place, the number of cases officially reported from

the commencement of the epidemic to the 3rd instant was over fifty thousand, and it is supposed that the number of unreported cases throughout the Prefecture must be nearly twice as great. In Tokyo also the disease is raging with great virulence. The official blagues are chiefly attacked, some of

eight having been struck down on the Sanitary Bureau alone, of all places. In fact, the influenza behaves, in one respect, exactly unlike the cholera, for while the latter chooses its victims among poor people, the former principally invades the well-to-do.

